

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**  
**April 6, 2011**

Meeting was called to order by Chair Kraft at 6:02 p.m.

Board of Health Members Present: Chair Kraft, Supervisor Bostwick (left at 7:05 p.m.), Ms. Wade, Dr. Winter, Dr. Peterson, and Supervisor Peer.

Board of Health Members Absent: Dr. Best, Supervisor Thompson and Mr. Rooney.

Staff Members Present: Karen Cain – Health Officer; Tim Banwell – Environmental Health Director; Deborah Erickson – Nursing Supervisor North Office; Matt Wesson – Registered Sanitarian; Adam Elmer – Registered Sanitarian; Laura Fadrowski – Health Educator; and Carol McComb – Public Health Support Specialist.

Others Present: Supervisor Mary Mawhinney, Ron Duffy - Bradford Township Chair, Anne Marie Ames – Janesville Gazette, Tom Boswell – Friends of Rock Prairie; and several Bradford Township and Rock County residents.

**Adopt Agenda**

Chair Kraft proposed revising the Agenda as follows: 6C. Health Education would become 6A, 6A. (1-3) Administrative Division would become 6C. 6A. (4) Update on Bradford Dairy would be put with 6B. (1) Environmental Health. Supervisor Bostwick made a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Winter seconded the motion. MOTION WITH CHANGES APPROVED.

**Approval of Minutes 03/02/11**

Chair Kraft stated she had a question about the minutes. On Page 3, under Health Department Report, ‘Monthly Newsletter Health Topic’, Chair Kraft requested that a copy of these articles be emailed along with the Board of Health packets to Board of Health members. Ms. Cain stated monthly articles would be included with the Board of Health packet each month.

Dr. Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes of the 3/2/11 Board of Health meeting. Supervisor Bostwick seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

**Citizen Participation**

Several citizens of Rock County spoke to the Board members regarding their concerns about the proposed Rock Prairie Dairy Farm being located in Bradford Township and the adverse effects these operations may have on the health and wellbeing of the community. They voiced their opinions and asked questions to the Board members and Health Department staff in support of their concerns.

**Unfinished Business**

None at this time.

## **New Business**

## **Health Education**

### **Health Educator's Report on 2010-2011 Activities**

Laura Fadrowski, Health Educator for the Rock County Health Department, gave a PowerPoint on the activities that she has been involved in for the Health Department during the year that she has been employed here.

- **Community Health Education:**  
Writes a monthly health column in 6 local newspapers.  
Represents the Health Department on a variety of committees and community coalitions.
- **Staff Collaboration:**  
Collaborates with staff to assist them in their duties and various community outreach projects; Bulletin boards, Outdoor marquee signage, Posters, Brochure redesigns, Display boards for health fairs/community events, Food Program Newsletter, Immunization Outreach Newsletter, Information Line, Press Releases, Grant Writing.
- **Social Media and Online Presence**  
Meets with the department website committee to continually improve the visual representation of the website for the public.  
Develop and record the health topics of the month.  
Started a Facebook page for the Health Department.
- **Color Me Healthy**  
Educates children ages 4-5 about healthier food choices and a more physically active lifestyle as they grow. This helps parents and caregivers help their children accomplish these goals. Teaches 4 classes monthly at a Milton Day Care and Clinton Elementary 4-K.

Ms. Cain handed out an article from the Milton Courier. The article pertained to the Color Me Healthy program that Ms. Fadrowski teaches at the Milton Day Care Center. A student's mother wrote a positive response to the food education that her preschooler has received with the Color Me Healthy Program.

Ms. Cain stated that the Health Column that Ms. Fadrowski writes is now in all of the Rock County newspapers including Brodhead. She thanked Dr. Winter for assisting in getting the health column published in the Janesville Gazette.

## **Environmental Health**

### **Summary of Health Impact Assessment**

Matt Wesson and Adam Elmer, both Registered Sanitarians with the Health Department, presented a PowerPoint on the Health Impact Assessment (HIA).

A Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is a combination of procedures, methods and tools by which a policy, program or project may be judged as to its potential effects on the health of a population, and the distribution of those effects within the population. It is not a legal binding contract.

An HIA provides recommendations to minimize negative impacts and enhance positive impacts. It is not a final decision on whether a policy or project should be implemented.

Mr. Wesson and Mr. Elmer stated that in November 2010, the Health Department received a \$10,000 HIA Mini-Grant to conduct a Rapid HIA, which would be finalized in the end of May 2011. The Health Department chose to assess the proposed Rock Prairie Dairy, which would be located in Bradford Township. Health Department staff felt that many questions would be raised with the community surrounding the dairy operations and this was a way for the Health Department to gain knowledge early in the process.

The Rock Prairie Dairy would house a maximum of 5,200 head of dairy cows, which would open in the end of 2011. This facility would produce an estimated 73,753,758 gallons of manure and wastewater per year. The property has secured 5,340 acres for manure spreading.

Determining potential health impacts was done through: public hearings, surveys, literature review, and local media

#### Survey results showed:

- \*Health Concerns: Ground Water being the most, followed by Odor, Air Quality, Surface Water, Mental Health and Flies.
- \*Health Concerns that Need Further Addressing: All issues, Long term Water Quality, Roads/Traffic, Air Quality, Dust, Wildlife, Noise

Health Issues Addressed in the HIA: Air Quality, Odor, Groundwater, Surface Water, Socioeconomic, Traffic, Noise, Aesthetic, and Insects.

#### Recommendations in the HIA:

- \*Notification from the dairy operator to the neighbors of manure spreading activities
- \*Private well monitoring program
- \*Increase surface water monitoring
- \*Develop complaint collecting and tracking system
- \*Emission Monitoring
- \*Enhance communication with surrounding community
- \*Provide worker health checks
- \*Signage on Highway 14 warning of truck traffic
- \*Vegetative Buffers
- \*Fly monitoring program

#### Update on Bradford Dairy

Discussion ensued after PowerPoint presentation: Chair Kraft asked if there would be private well monitoring, how often and who would pay for it. Mr. Wesson stated that yearly testing is recommended, but procedures and funding is still undetermined. There have been discussions with the State on finding funding to help offset the costs.

Supervisor Peer asked when was best to spread the manure, day or night. Mr. Wesson stated that it is typically better to spread manure late morning or early afternoon.

Supervisor Bostwick asked if the recommendations had been presented to the owner. Mr. Wesson stated that they would be presented to him when the HIA was finalized. Supervisor Bostwick requested that a report be given to the Board of Health when that was done.

Supervisor Kraft asked if the property owner did not follow the recommendations what would happen. Mr. Wesson stated that nothing would happen. The recommendations are just recommendations and are not legally binding.

Dr. Peterson asked if there were many complaints with a larger facility located in Green Bay. Mr. Banwell stated that the complaints were minimal.

Supervisor Mawhinney asked if any manure was spilled was there a plan. Mr. Banwell stated there was.

Mr. David Steinholtz, Rock County resident, inquired if there were pivot sprayers. Mr. Banwell stated that there were not.

Mr. Tim Bliss, Bradford resident, stated he feels that testing by the dairy owner should be done quarterly at the dairy operator's expense, not every 3 years; that water monitoring for contamination should be in place and a nuisance ordinance to prevent from spraying. There should also be specific guidelines for the dairy owner and enforcement at his expense.

Chair Kraft stated that some items the Board of Health could not address.

Mr. Ron Noe, Janesville resident, asked if the Health Department could not enforce the issues, who could. Mr. Banwell stated that enforcement of CAFO regulations are with the State Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer protection.

Dr. Winter stated that the issues are at a State level. The Health Department can only give recommendations through the Health Impact Assessment. Hopefully, the dairy owner would use as a guideline the recommendations given in the HIA.

Mr. Banwell stated that the dairy owner has rules and regulations that he would have to follow before getting the different permits that are involved in getting the dairy in place.

Supervisor Kraft asked if the Health Department had benchmarks of the water quality before the dairy starts. Mr. Banwell stated that they possibly have around 40-50 samples, but could go out and get more samples.

Supervisor Bostwick asked if any other counties have had similar issues like this and if so how was it handled. Mr. Banwell stated that Marathon County had an odor complaint related to use of incinerators.

Mr. Ron Duffy, Bradford Township Chairman, discussed the 3 types of manure distribution; center pivot (applied when crop is growing so as to minimize the amount of run off into the soil), drag line (spread through hoses while being knifed into the soil) and use of spreaders. He stated that 2 dairies located in Calumet and Juneau Counties have been in operation for about 2 years. They have been using the center pivot distribution method and had complaints about using end guns. He stated that there are ways of monitoring the effects of this

application and would propose that it be at the expense of the owner/operator of the dairy. The WDNR has not approved the center pivot application as of yet.

Mr. Duffy stated that the Department of Transportation has approved the addition of 2 turn lanes at the intersection of South Scharine Road and Highway 14.

Mr. Tom Boswell, spoke on the behalf of the Friends of Rock Prairie. Mr. Boswell discussed getting manure management plans in place and proposed placing a financial bond to the farm owner.

### **Administrative Division**

#### **Approval of Bills/Transfer of Funds**

Ms. Wade made a motion to approve the bills for the month of March 2011 in the amount of \$39,251.78. Supervisor Peer seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

There is no transfer of funds this month.

### **Health Department Report**

Annual County Health Rankings: Ms. Cain handed out the Wisconsin 2011 County Health Rankings. Ms. Cain stated that the department is working in collaboration with the county's 4 hospitals to conduct a community health needs assessment. Based on the findings from the needs assessment and information from the county health rankings, future Health Department programs will be directed at trying to address some of the health issues. Mercy Hospital has offered to have a fellow from the Minnesota School of Public Health who is doing an internship at Mercy, help with conducting the needs assessment.

Annual Report: Ms. Cain handed out the 2010 Rock County Health Department Annual Report. Ms. Cain stated that Laura Fadrowski, health educator, is working on the 2010 community version of the annual report, which is in a format that the public can more easily read and see the services provided by the Health Department. Ms. Cain stated that the County Supervisors would also receive the report.

Stateline Foundation Grant: Ms. Cain stated that Dr. Tom Schlenker, health officer from the Madison/Dane County Health Department, would like to collaborate with the Health Department to address issues related to African American Infant Mortality. An initial step with this would be for Rock County to analyze infant birth and death data for the last 20 years. Madison/Dane County has already done their data analysis. Dr. Schlenker is willing to have his department's epidemiologist analyze our data from the annual birth and infant death data and compare to theirs. The cost to access this information would be around \$1,000 – \$2,000. The Stateline Foundation Grant would cover this expense. The county administrator, Craig Knutson, wanted the Board of Health members to approve this action

Dr. Winter made a motion to approve the endeavors of getting the data from the Division of Vital Records and collaborating with the Madison/Dane County Health Department on the infant birth and death data. Dr. Peterson seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Supervisor Peer made a motion to approve the application for the Stateline Foundation Grant. Ms. Wade seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED.

Public Health Nurse Resignation: Ms. Cain stated that Jenna Bouton, RN, has resigned her position at the Health Department. Ms. Bouton wanted to work in the obstetrics field; she took a position at the Monroe Hospital in the OB department. Ms. Cain stated the department would be filling the vacancy.

Community Health Needs Assessment: Ms. Cain reported she will be meeting with representatives from the 4 hospitals in Rock County on March 11, 2011 to discuss a collaborative effort concerning the Community Health Needs Assessment required of all hospitals every 3 years. This is a new requirement under the Health Care Reform Act.

**Communications and Announcements**

None at this time.

**Adjournment**

Dr. Peterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Wade seconded the motion. MOTION APPROVED. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol McComb, Recorder

Not Official Until Approved by the Board of Health